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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

1 AUGUST 2018

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Los Angeles – Woman, Relatives Indicated in Money Laundering Scheme

(U) A Filipino woman accused of masterminding a multimillion-dollar fraud scheme involving several Philippine elected officials was indicted along with multiple relatives yesterday by a federal grand jury in Los Angeles for allegedly laundering bilked public funds through Southern California banks. Jannet Lim Napoles, 54, who is facing charges in the Philippines, is accused along with five relatives of funneling about \$20 million in Philippine public money to Southern California, then using the money to purchase real estate and a pair of luxury vehicles, while also paying living expenses for three relatives residing in the US.

SOURCE: 31 July 2018, [Daily News](#)

(U) Santa Barbara – Hub for Human Trafficking

(U) California has the highest number of human trafficking cases in the US, with San Diego, Los Angeles, and San Francisco labeled by the FBI as cities with high-intensity child sex trafficking. While Santa Barbara is not among the top 10, its position along Highway 101 between major cities makes it a “hub” for sex trafficking, according to the agency. A large majority of the victims found in the county are children, identified so frequently that a safe house has been created for them. In 2013, the Santa Barbara County District Attorney’s Office created a Human Trafficking Task Force, and in 2016 they joined forces with the Santa Barbara County Sheriff’s Office to enhance the effort with \$1.34 million from the US Department of Justice.

SOURCE: 1 August 2018, [Independent](#)

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

(U) Arizona – CBP Interdicts Group of 95 Illegal Migrants

(U) Lukeville – US Customs and Border Protection Agents say a group of nearly 100 people were apprehended over the weekend trying to traverse the Arizona desert after crossing the border illegally. A National Park Service ranger reported a large group of people in the desert about eight miles west of the Lukeville Port of Entry in Pima County early on 28 July. Border Patrol agents found the group, which comprised 95 people from Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador, and took them into custody. Immigration authorities said those apprehended ranged in age from three months to 60 years old.

SOURCE: 31 July 2018, [ABC 15 Arizona](#)

(U) Texas – Mexican National Gets Nearly 5 Years for Smuggling Cocaine

(U) McAllen –Diego Palacios-Villalon was sentenced to 57 months in federal prison 30 July during a sentencing hearing before US District Judge Micaela Alvarez, court notes show. An opportunity for \$600 in exchange for smuggling cocaine into the US resulted in a nearly five-year prison sentence for one Mexican national man. According to the criminal complaint filed against the man, on Nov. 25, 2017, US Customs and Border Protection officers working at the Hidalgo port of entry referred Palacios-Villalon’s vehicle for a secondary inspection after a K-9 made a “positive” alert.

SOURCE: 31 July 2018, [The Monitor](#)

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(U) NATIONAL**(U) Michigan – Pair Given Lengthy Sentences for California to Michigan Drug Trafficking**

(U) Grand Rapids – Two men who participated in a cross-country drug conspiracy that brought hundreds of pounds of cocaine and heroin into West Michigan have been sentenced to lengthy prison terms. Yusef Lateef Phillips was sentenced to 25 years in federal prison on gun and drug conspiracy charges. Ray Anthony Lee got more than 16½ years for the same charges. The pair were recently sentenced in US District Court in Grand Rapids. They are among 21 people nabbed in a narcotics conspiracy that spanned several states. Eight defendants have been sentenced so far; cases are pending against 13 others.

SOURCE: 31 July 2018, [WZZM 13](#)

(U) Wisconsin – 1.4 Million Patient Records Breached in UnityPoint Health Phishing Attack

(U) Madison – UnityPoint Health is notifying 1.4 million patients that their records may have been breached when its business system was compromised by a phishing attack. This is the second breach for UnityPoint this year. In April, another phishing attack on staff email accounts at its Madison campus breached the data of 16,000 patients. According to the notice, the health system's business email system was hit by a series of targeted phishing emails that looked like they were sent from an executive within UnityPoint. An employee fell victim to the emails, which gave hackers access to internal email accounts from 14 March until 3 April. Law enforcement and forensic investigators believe the attack was financially motivated. The investigation found the hackers were likely trying to use the email system to divert vendor or payroll payments. Officials said the EHR and billing systems weren't impacted by the attack.

SOURCE: 31 July 2018, [Healthcare IT News](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL**(U) Afghanistan – At Least 15 Dead As Gunmen Attack Afghan Government Building**

(U) Jalalabad – At least 15 people were killed yesterday in Afghanistan's eastern city of Jalalabad when gunmen stormed a government building, trapping dozens inside after a suicide bomber blew himself up at the entrance gate, officials and witnesses said. The attack underlines the country's dire security situation after 17 years of war. Islamic State of Iraq and ash-Sham Khorasan Province (ISIS-KP) increasingly claims attacks on civilian targets even as pressure builds for peace talks between the Western-backed government and the Taliban. There was no immediate claim of responsibility, though the Taliban issued a statement denying involvement. After several hours during which intermittent gunfire and explosions could be heard, provincial government spokesman Attaullah Khogyani said the incident appeared to be over with two gunmen killed and much of the building destroyed.

SOURCE: 31 July 2018, [Reuters](#)

(U) Mexico – TCO Boss "El Fefe" Detained by Mexican State Police

(U) Tulum – The State Police in Tulum arrested two individuals linked to organized crime, one of them is identified as Francisco Javier Pool of the Cross "El Fefe" and is known to be one of the main leaders of the criminal organization "Los Pelones". It operated in Benito Juárez, Quintana Roo. Both are subject to preventive detention accused of homicide. They were arrested on 27 July on the Tulum-Carrillo Puerto highway in possession of 109 cocaine wrappers and 2 handguns. The Sicario's had an arrest warrant and are the charged in multiple Cancún homicides investigations. "El Fefe" is responsible for generating the increase in violence in the northern part of the State and was part of the structure of the criminal group "Los Pelones".

SOURCE: 31 July 2018, [La Verdad](#)

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